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A section of the Mena-Shady Road

While the fire menace is still most severe, the annual acreage burned is steadily decreasing and public sentiment is beginning to condemn and outlaw the old woods-burning practice and the careless use of fire. Many settlers now lend valued cooperation in fire control. Good roads and trails have made the major portion of the forest accessible. An extensive Forest Service telephone system serves well the purposes of protection and administration, and serves also the local farms and settlements. With reduced fire damage, timber production has improved. The timber is growing at an annual rate of perhaps 75 to 100 board feet per acre. With fires banished from the woods, the annual growth should exceed 150 board feet per acre. The stands of timber have been cruised, estimated, classified, and made ready for the perpetual harvest. Receipts have grown from \$1,000 in 1908 to more than \$100,000 in 1926, and it is not at all unreasonable to expect a continued increase to perhaps \$200,000 per year under complete forest management and use. These growing receipts are making large amounts available to the counties for schools and roads.

Assuming expenditures of \$16 to \$20 per thousand board feet to harvest and deliver lumber at the shipping point, the present annual cut of 14 million feet on Ouachita National Forest means local expenditures of about a quarter of a million dollars each year for labor and supplies. The fruits of this growing industry are more employment for local labor, better markets for the farmer, better business for the merchant. Every citizen, every civic project, shares beneficially. Ouachita is one of the several national forests for which the 65 per cent of gross receipts constituting the annual return to the Federal treasury already exceeds the ordinary cost of protection and admin-

RECREATION

With the protection and economic development of Ouachita National Forest well established and driving steadily forward, it is time to bring into more prominence a rather new but undeniably important use of this great outdoor property.

The eyes of the people of Arkansas, northeastern Texas, and northern Louisiana turn naturally to the Ouachita Mountain region, one day's automobile drive or less away, as an ideal place for a summer vacation. And this is as it should be. Here is a land of noble hills, high and cool when the lowlands swelter, and rich in forest beauty, in every outdoor charm. In public ownership, the forest is under a form of administration that invites its use for recreation. It has pure and plentiful water, and shady woods in splendid variety. It is easily accessible, and its highways and byways lead to numberless points of interest.

POINTS OF INTEREST

On or near Ouachita National Forest are many mineral springs of known medicinal values. The most famous of these are the Hot Springs in Hot Springs National Park, within 10 miles of the forest boundary. From Hot Springs National Park as a starting point one may visit other wellknown springs, such as Mountain Valley, Ozark Lithia, Potash Sulphur, and Mud Springs. Other springs of more local reputation are McFadden near Hawes, Blancho near Cedar Glades, Crystal Springs at Crystal Springs and Gilham Springs, all within easy reach.

A short drive from Hot Springs National Park takes one into Crystal Mountain Range, which receives its name from the abundance of rock crystals found in veins in the quartose sandstones of which the mountains are composed. It is in these mountains that the famous "Hot Springs crystals" or "Hot Springs diamonds" are found. For the vigorous, a stiff climb to the top of a ridge may yield a well-formed crystal or two; others can obtain crystals from wayside

Mena, in the heart of the Ouachita Mountains, is a rendezvous during the summer months for hundreds of health and pleasure seekers from the hot southern portion of Arkansas and from Texas and Louisiana. These visitors enjoy daily outings in Ouachita National Forest. Of interest in this vicinity is a drive over the Mena-Shady road through the forest to the Mine Creek Camp and Little Missouri Falls, or a visit to Bethesda Springs or Standing Rock. For those who like to climb there is Mena Peak, just outside of Mena, and Lofty Buck Knob, or Eagle Mountain. The last two have lookout towers from which an excellent view may be had of roll upon roll of the numerous ridges and valleys of the Ouachita Mountain region, and the Piedmont Plateau to the south. On clear days the Ozark Mountains, north of the Arkansas River, may be seen piling up on the horizon.

Of historical interest is the mountain retreat of Albert Pike, the master genius of Masonry. On a farm at the foot of Pryor Mountain, purchased by Pike in 1856, he wrote three books including Morals and Dogma," a compilation of Masonic philosophy. Pike was driven away from his mountain retreat by a guerrilla band, which destroyed his belongings and threw all the books of his large library into the river. The old house stood until a few years ago.

Booneville, in the Petit Jean Valley, is the northern gateway to the Ouachita National Forest. The beautiful Sugar Creek area of the Ouachita Forest is easily reached by automobile road from Booneville. Here an excellent view of the Arkansas Valley and the Ouachita Mountains can be had from White Oak Mountain, towering 2,200 feet. Petit Jean Trail along the top of the Petit Jean Mountain offers a delightful trip for those who travel afoot or horseback.

EVERYBODY LOSES WHEN TIMBER BURNS

GUARD AGAINST STREAM POLLUTION



Even he who must chop the wood enjoys life in the open with family and friends

FOR THE CAMPERS

For those who enjoy their outings best with rustling canvas for shelter and the odor of wood smoke and coffee for an appetizer, Ouachita National Forest offers the Mine Creek Camp, the Iron Spring Camp, and the Cold Springs Camp. The Mine Creek Camp is easily reached via the Mena-Shady road, while access to the Iron Spring Camp is by way of the Fourche River road from Hot Springs National Park. The Cold Springs Camp is accessible by automobile roads from Waldron or Booneville. No charge is made for the use of the forest camps, improved by the Forest Service for public enjoyment. All that is asked of campers is that they be careful with fire, dispose of papers and trash, and observe other good sanitary practices. Opportunities abound for the development of municipal camps, for summer encampments of Boy Scouts, Campfire Girls, Y. M. C. A., and similar organizations, for commercial camps of boys and girls, and for hotel and resort developments.

THE FOREST IS THE NATURAL HABITAT OF GAME AND BIRD LIFE. KEEP THE FOREST FREE OF FIRE. GIVE THE GAME A CHANCE



FISH AND GAME IN THE FOREST

The clear streams of Ouachita National Forest were doubtless once teaming with fish, but are so no more. It is in this section that the smallmouthed black bass is making his greatest fight against extermination. All fishing is poor compared with what it should be. Repeated forest fires have played their sorry part in bringing about this condition, as have dynamiting, rifle fishing, stream poisoning, and other criminal methods of taking fish. Above all, too much fishing and no thought of conservation are responsible. This situation can be remedied by the cooperation of anglers and the general public in systematic stream stocking and in the prevention of excessive fishing and other abuses.

Ouachita National Forest is good game country throughout. Splendid cover, bounteous food, plentiful supply of pure water, and a favorable climate make game propagation and maintenance simple if the kill is controlled. Establishment of game refuges within Ouchita National Forest is an essential feature of wild life conservation. Organized cooperation of local sportsmen is needed in stocking refuges and in keeping them inviolate as breeding grounds the overflow from which will restore in goodly numbers the wild life in the surrounding hunting grounds.



At home in the forest

FOREST FIRES

A forest fire is usually the result of carelessness or of deliberate intent. In the last 5 years 8 fires a year in the Ouachita Forest were caused by lightning, while man-caused fires, by intent or through carelessness, averaged 392 a year.

Man-caused fires could be prevented except for the thoughtlessness and indifference of forest residents, transients, and forest users.

WHAT FIRE DOES

The Ouachita Mountains owe much of their charm to the forests. Fire destroys this charm; a burn is a blot and a scar on the landscape. Forest fires destroy more game than all other destructive agencies combined. The fish disappear when the stream flow is seriously affected

by destruction of the forested watersheds. Experienced stockmen find that stock do better on unburned range, the early spring food consisting of both new and old growth

Every woods fire does damage. Fire scars make cull lumber. The lightest surface fires destroy tree seeds and small seedlings, the basis for a new crop of trees.

Continued woods burning results in the drying up of streams, springs, and wells during the summer and in irregular and impure water supply for home use; it hastens erosion, floods, and the destruction of rich bottom-land farms during rainy periods.

> And, when the fury of the fiend was spent, Burned out the fullness of its torrid wrath, It left behind a devastated path o human carelessness a monument

his exploration of the Ouachita River valley

Hot Springs National Park, De Soto continued

short stay at the "Hot Waters," in what is now

a portion of Ouachita National Forest. After a

Fourche Mountains through country that is now

Waters, he turned southward, crossing the

ing heard of the healing powers of the "Hot

this trip, De Soto was stricken with illness. Hav-

eled up the Arkansas River valley. While on

in 1541 with a small band of explorers, he trav-

Indians. Crossing the Mississippi into Arkansas

penetrate this mountain fastness of the Quapaw

HIGH LIGHTS OF REGIONAL HISTORY

Heart of the Ouachitas

Hernando de Soto was the first white man to

-Douglas Malloch.

Reserve Ova OUACHITA NATIONAL FOREST

ARKANSAS



The Falls of the Little Missouri River

This folder contains a map of the National Forest and adjacent areas, with information about its timber. water, forage, and recreational resources.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

EASTERN DISTRICT

line eastward almost half way across Arkansas. coastal plain, and extending from the Oklahoma Arkansas River on the north and the southern Ouachita Mountain region lying between the

The mountains form long, narrow elevations

Ouachita National Forest includes most of the IN THE HIGHLANDS OF ARKANSAS

permanently profitable basis. ditions, and essential to a lumber industry on a tice under existing economic and industrial conhave been shown to be sound, susceptible of praconly mean that the methods of modern forestry forest practice in harvesting timber. This can adopted many of the fundamentals of national vicinity of Ouachita National Forest have already eral owners of large properties in the immediate its policy in keeping their lands productive. Sevencourages private timberland owners to follow enormous needs of the Nation, the Forest Service can not produce sufficient timber to meet the Realizing that the national forest lands alone

protecting them from fire and to open up the sheep under permit; water-power development is

may seriously interfere with another. torms of use so that each may go on and none these resources and to coordinate the different terest under a plan which aims to perpetuate reational resources are managed in the public inwater, forage, fish and game, and scenic and recservice to the greatest number. Their timber, with a view to rendering the greatest possible administered by the United States Forest Service

duction of timber and the protection of waterwhich has been dedicated primarily to the pro-158,000,000, acres of Government-owned land Porto Rico. These forests include more than tional forests, located in 28 States, Alaska, and Ouachita National Forest is one of 160 na-

PUBLIC PROPERTY THE NATIONAL FORESTS ARE

Jects, the Forest Service seeks primarily the largest system, except in the major forest highway pro-In the development of the national forest road

maximum public service. National Forest is to-day well on the way to development, and after twenty years Ouachita launched at once its program of protection and tivity was at a low ebb. The Forest Service system, no telephone communication. Producwere barely passable; there was no forest trail Its remaining resources were inaccessible. Roads suffered the ravages of fire, year in, year out. was in a decidedly run-down condition. It had Ouachita National Forest in 1907, the property ministration, and development was applied to When the present system of protection, ad-

TWO DECADES OF PROCRESS

within the forest has been possible. development of primary and secondary roads appropriations exceeded \$400,000, and it is largely June 30, 1926, allotments to Ouachita from such which have been made available since 1916. To in the various Federal aid road appropriations National Forest has also shared very materially lorest residents and communities. Ouachita use, to facilitate administration, and to serve the better protection, to open up new resources for roads and trails designed primarily to promote construction and maintenance within the forest of is set aside and used by the Forest Service in the counties for road and school purposes, 10 per cent torest receipts, which each year is returned to the of trails. In addition to the 25 per cent of gross National Forest 154 miles of roads and 330 miles The Forest Service has built within Ouachita

ROADS AND TRAILS

dustry capable of contributing greatly to local monious associations would soon develop an inthe local stockmen and farmers working in hartried and proved methods of tick eradication by bred bulls and the adoption of the simple yet cost or long delay. The introduction of purethese obstacles can be overcome, without undue continued breeding of low-grade stock. Both been prevented by the Texas fever tick and the development of the local livestock industry has the wealth production of the region. In the past and under such methods as to add materially to source that should be used in such completeness ample pasturage within the forest. Here is a rethat 63,000 cattle or 250,000 sheep would find than 10 per cent of it is used. It is estimated

at present in all portions of the forest, but less to forest growth and overgrazing of the forage crop itself. There is abundant range available couraged, but so regulated as to prevent damage stock owned by local people is permitted and ento livestock. The grazing of this forage by liveconsisting of grasses and other plants palatable National Forest there is a plentiful forage growth, In the more open timber stands of Ouachita

LIVESTOCK ON THE FOREST

dollars and cents. cause it can not be stated in the exact terms of torms of public service, none the less valuable bewatersheds the forest renders one of its greatest and improvements. Thus in protecting the bottom land, and immense damage to property aging floods, excessive silting of channels and than 50 inches could only result in frequent damtarding influence the annual precipitation of more the heavy annual rainfall and feeding it steadily forest cover and soil in receiving and absorbing streams, are directly affected by the action of the Saline, Little Missouri, Caddo, and other lesser mestic water use along the Fourche, Ouachita, the lower Arkansas, and industrial power and doflow of many important streams. Navigation on Forest exercise a highly beneficial influence on the The forested watersheds of Ouachita National

THE FOREST WATERSHEDS

schools and road systems. forest is situated for use in development of its is returned directly to the counties in which the Of the gross annual forest receipts, 2) per cent

bringing in receipts of more than \$100,000. exceeds fourteen million board feet of saw timber, out depleting the supply. The annual cut now from Ouachita National Forest perpetually withall species considered, can be marketed annually About twenty-two million board feet of timber,

wood required by the Nation. contributing its share to the great volume of forest land is kept continuously growing timber, that under this system of cutting every acre of thinned out young seedling trees also come in, so timber for future marketing. As the stand is leaves a thrifty, well-spaced stand of growing rimental to the remaining forest are cut. This ripe trees, defective trees, and trees that are detare carefully selected by a forest officer. Only scenic and esthetic values. The trees to be cut also given to avoiding unnecessary sacrifice of more rapid growth of timber. Due attention is

leave the areas productive and to bring about a cutting being conducted in such manner as to keting of this timber is going on continuously, National forest timber is for use and the mar-

rarely equalled throughout the national forest hundred million board feet of hardwoods in variety shortlesf pine the forest contains more than three

y quality product—high in percenage of first-class lumber—prompt in re-producting—rapid in growth—remarkably free from defect. Leep firs out and let the pines grow dollurs for schools and roads. The age-old forest of shortled pine



sprouts as well as from seed. In addition to of the extremely tew pines reproducing from billion board feet of that species. Shortleaf is one of shortlest pine, supporting a stand of over one Ouachita National Forest is primarily a forest

THE TIMBER OF THE FOREST

of maximum service and benefit to the public. who earnestly strive to make this public property get in touch with the supervisor or the rangers, for action. Visitors to the forest will do well to public inquiry are referred to the forest supervisor people directly affected, all matters arising from the national forests as close as possible to the Service policy of bringing the administration of service. In line with the established Forest National Forest, its uses and forms of public supply detailed information regarding Ouachita the district forester at Washington will gladly and Waldron, Ark. Any of the local officers or are located at Norman, Jessieville, Mena, Oden,

of from 140,000 to 382,000 acres. District rangers ers, each directly handling a division of the forest under the supervisor there are five district rangforest. In addition to staff and clerical assistants is directly in charge of the administration of the Post Office Building, Hot Springs National Park, The forest supervisor, with headquarters in the

jurisdiction of the district forester, Washington, trict of the South and East under the general properties included in the National Forest Dis-Ouachita National Forest is one of 14 such braces and for the principal river which drains it. the "Ouachita," for the mountains which it eman executive order renamed this national forest On April 29, 1926, President Calvin Coolidge in

tion, as well as from that of public use and enof efficient protection and economical administrawithin the forest boundary from the standpoint sequently better condition of land ownership est purposes, are operating to bring about a conpurchase of additional lands for national forize land exchange in the national forests, and 663,378 acres. The Federal laws which authorleaving a net area of publicly-owned land totaling 295,399 acres are as yet in private ownership, to 958,777 acres. Within the present boundaries from the national forest, reducing its gross area est. Later proclamations eliminated large areas and administered as the Arkansas National For-Arkansas 1,663,300 acres to be known, protected, reserved and unappropriated public lands of Roosevelt by proclamation set aside from the untional forest plan of land use, President Theodore 1907, after 16 years of development of the na-1891 in the vast public domain of the West. In The national forest system was initiated in

NATIONAL FOREST AREA AND ADMINISTRATION OF OUACHITA

ing from control. when there is the slightest danger of their escapbuild brush or clearing fires in windy weather or 6. BRUSH OR CLEARING FIRES. Never

tight over and around the fire. Be sure the last able, stir in earth and tread it down until packed ground around the fire. If water is not obtainsmall sticks and drench both sides; wet the the coals while soaking them with water; turn 5. PUTTING OUT A CAMP FIRE. Stir until the camp fire is out—dead out. 4. LEAVING CAMP. Never break camp

The early explorers found the Ouachita Mountains wonderfully rich in timber as every other forest resource—a region of both natural wealth and beauty. With the curse of teckless fire climinated and under conservaive use and management, it shou always be to Arkansas and to the Mation a reservoir of wealth and a land of outdo delight.

Dead snags and a scrub thicket have replaced a rich and beautiful stand of timber—some one was careless or wilffully intent on burning the usods. Such flues ob every citizen.

trash from around it. tree or log or near brush. Scrape away the camp fire. Build it in the open, not against a

stamp out any fire. Do not throw them into cigarette stumps in the dust of the road and 2. TOBACCO. Throw pipe ashes and cigar or

FOLLOW THESE SIMPLE RULES PREVENT FIRE IN THE FOREST

veloped steadily in agriculture, industry, and

chita River, Petit Jean Mountain. "Ouachita" names, such as Fourche La Fave River, Ouamany of the streams and mountains have French ploring parties passed through the region, for able to suppose, however, that early French exof Arkansas, visited this locality. It is reason-Salle or De Tonti, who is often called the tather

Four years after a fire in shortleat pine



3. MAKING CAMP. Build only a small

Break it in two before throwing it away.

1. MATCHES. Be sure your match is out.

leys were largely settled. They have since declose of the Civil War the main agricultural val-Hot Springs, Fort Smith, and Benton. By the tlements near what is now Dardanelle, and at began to come in. By 1819 there were large setginia, Alabama, Georgia, Louisiana, and Missouri North Carolina, South Carolina, Kentucky, Virin 1803, English-speaking settlers from Tennessee, After the purchase of the Louisiana Territory

is the French spelling of the name of a local In-It is not known definitely whether or not La

mountain roads and trails find passage across the and then sloping off to low gaps through which isolated peaks 1,000 to 2,000 feet above sea level

TRACHE

FOREST SERVICE ISSUED 1927

with undulating summits rising in prominent

Service for use in administering the forests and trails, and telephones are built by the Forest permitted under proper regulations. Roads, forage in the openings is grazed by cattle and producing as much timber as possible on the land; way as to provide for growing a new crop and for Timber in the forests is harvested in such a

As public properties, the national forests are

